IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE DIVISION 1:22-CR-00011-MOC-WCM

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
v.) ORDER
KATIE JEANNE JOHNSON,)
Defendant.)

This matter is before the Court on Defendant's Unopposed Motion to Seal Unreducted Motion to Dismiss and Release (the "Motion to Seal," Doc. 36), which requests permission to file under seal an unreducted version of Defendant's Motion to Dismiss Supervised Release Petition and to Release Ms. Johnson (the "Motion to Dismiss," Doc. 37).

In evaluating a motion to seal, the Court must "(1) provide public notice of the request to seal and allow interested parties a reasonable opportunity to object, (2) consider less drastic alternatives to sealing the documents, and (3) provide specific reasons and factual findings supporting its decision to seal the documents and for rejecting the alternatives." Ashcraft v. Conoco, Inc., 218 F.3d 288, 302 (4th Cir. 2000); see also LCrR 49.1.1.

The undersigned has reviewed the Motion to Seal and considered the public's interest in access to the unredacted Motion to Dismiss and alternatives to sealing.

The redacted material pertains to Defendant's personal medical and

psychological information. Other documents containing such information

have been sealed in this matter. See Forensic Evaluation (Doc. 18); Forensic

Evaluation (Doc. 26); unredacted copy of Joint Request for Transportation

(Docs. 32, 33); Forensic Addendum and Court Update (Doc. 34).

The Government has no objection to the Motion to Seal.

The Motion to Seal and a redacted copy of the Motion to Dismiss have

been on the public docket since December 15, 2023.

Under these circumstances, the undersigned finds that the sealing of

an unredacted copy of the Motion to Dismiss is appropriate.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT Defendant's Motion to Seal

(Doc. 36) is GRANTED and Defendant's Motion to Dismiss Supervised

Release Petition and to Release Ms. Johnson (Doc. 37) shall remain sealed.

This ruling is subject to further consideration by the Court, including upon a

subsequent motion to unseal, as may be necessary.

Signed on: 12/28/2023

W. Carleton Metcalf

United States Magistrate Judge

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